

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the present patent application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended). A consumable guide tube configured to be placed in a weld gap, said consumable guide tube [[,]] comprising:

a first elongated strip and a second elongated strip wherein each of said strips have a front face, a back face, [[and]] a length, and two elongated edges;

at least one longitudinal channel defined on said front face of said first elongated strip, said longitudinal channel distant from the elongated edges;

said front face of said first elongated strip joined to said front face of said second elongated strip;

said at least one longitudinal channel positioned to receive at least one welding wire; and

a plurality of button insulator modules wherein each of said plurality of button insulator modules comprises a flat projecting face, said plurality of button insulator modules coupled to said back face of said first elongated strip and said back face of said second elongated strip wherein said plurality of insulator modules are disposed along said length of said first elongated strip and said second elongated strip, ~~at least one of~~ said plurality of button insulator modules configured to melt into a molten flux puddle and configured to provide adequate clearance for the consumable guide tube to oscillate within the weld gap. [[; and]]

~~at least one of said plurality of insulator modules configured to provide enough clearance within a weld gap for said consumable guide tube to oscillate.~~

Claim 2 (original). The guide tube of claim 1 wherein said guide tube is oscillated in an electroslog welding process.

Claim 3 (original). The guide tube of claim 1 wherein said first elongated strip comprises two or more longitudinal channels.

Claim 4 (original). The guide tube of claim 1 wherein said first elongated strip is joined to said second elongated strip by welding said first elongated strip with said second elongated strip.

Claim 5 (original). The guide tube of claim 1 wherein said at least one longitudinal channel is defined by a circular shape.

Claim 6 (original). The guide tube of claim 1 wherein said at least one longitudinal channel is defined by a triangular shape.

Claim 7 (original). The guide tube of claim 1 wherein said first elongated strip is thinner than said second elongated strip.

Claim 8 (original). The guide tube of claim 7 wherein said insulator modules are coupled to said first elongated strip and said second elongated strip at intervals.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended). A consumable guide tube configured to be placed in a welding cavity that is used in an electroslag process, said consumable guide tube configured to guide at least one welding wire into the [[a]] welding cavity and transmits amperage to said at least one welding wire, comprising:

a first elongated strip and a second elongated strip where said first elongated strip and said second elongated strip each has a front face, a back face, [[and]] a length, and two elongated edges;

at least one longitudinal channel defined on said front face of said first elongated strip configured to receive said at least one welding wire, said longitudinal channel distant from the elongated edges;

said front face of said first elongated strip joined to said front face of said second elongated strip; and

a plurality of button insulator modules wherein each of said plurality of button
insulator modules comprises a flat projecting face, said plurality of button insulator
modules coupled to said back face of said first elongated strip and said back face of
said second elongated strip wherein said plurality of insulator modules are disposed
along said length of said first elongated strip and said second elongated strip, at
~~least one of~~ said plurality of button insulator modules configured to melt into a
molten flux puddle and configured to provide adequate clearance for the
consumable guide tube to oscillate within the welding cavity.; and

~~at least one of said plurality of insulator modules configured to provide enough clearance within said welding cavity for said consumable guide tube to oscillate.~~

Claim 10 (original). The guide tube of claim 9 wherein said first elongated strip is thinner than said second elongated strip.

Claim 11 (original). The guide tube of claim 10 having two or more longitudinal channels defined on said first elongated strip.

Claim 12 (original). The guide tube of claim 11 having a plurality of insulator modules disposed in intervals of 4 to 6 inches.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended). A consumable guide tube configured to be placed in a weld gap, said consumable guide tube ~~[[,]]~~ comprising:

a thin first elongated strip having a front face, a back face, a ~~[[and]]~~ length, and two elongated edges, said front face having at least one longitudinal channel distant from the elongated edges;

a second elongated strip having a front face, a back face and a length, said front face of said second elongated strip configured to be coupled to said front face of said thin first elongated strip; and

a plurality of button insulator modules wherein each of the plurality of button insulator modules comprises a flat projecting face, said plurality of button insulator modules coupled to said back face of said first elongated strip and said back face of said second elongated strip wherein said plurality of insulator modules are disposed along said length of said first elongated strip and said second elongated strip, ~~at~~ least one of said plurality of insulator modules configured to melt into a molten flux

puddle and configured to provide adequate clearance for the consumable guide tube to oscillate within the weld gap; and

~~—— at least one of said plurality of insulator modules configured to provide enough clearance within a weld gap for said consumable guide tube to oscillate.~~

Claim 14 (original). The guide tube of claim 13, wherein said thin first elongated strip is a low carbon cold rolled steel strip.

Claim 15 (original). The guide tube of claim 13, wherein said second elongated strip is a low carbon hot rolled steel strip.

Claim 16 (original). The guide tube of claim 13, wherein said front face of said thin first elongated strip comprises two or more longitudinal channels.

Claim 17 (original). The guide tube of claim 13 comprising a rust resistant coating deposited on said guide tube.

Claim 18 (original). The guide tube of claim 13 wherein said plurality of insulator modules is composed of a flux material used as flux during an electroslog process.

Claim 19 (original). The guide tube of claim 13 wherein said thin first elongated strip is coupled to said second elongated strip.

Claim 20 (original). The guide tube of claim 13 wherein the thickness of the combination of said thin first elongated strip, said second elongated strip, and said plurality of insulator modules is less than 0.75 inches.